



Department of Public Safety

COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE &
SEXUAL ASSAULT
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For more information or to schedule media interviews with summit planners and participants please call Susan Christianson at 907-209-7231.

Statewide Summit Brings Alaskan Communities Together to Prevent Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence

The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault is bringing together shelter workers, social service agencies and community representatives from across Alaska to strengthen statewide efforts to prevent domestic and sexual violence.

The ***“2012 Prevention Summit: Putting Prevention to Work - Alaskan Communities Working Together to End Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence,”*** will take place Tuesday through Thursday, Nov. 13-15, at the Embassy Suites Anchorage Hotel, 600 East Benson Blvd. in Anchorage.

Gov. Sean Parnell will deliver the opening address at 11:15 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13, at this important summit aimed at helping Alaskan communities learn more about how to effectively implement local violence-prevention efforts.

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“We are so pleased Gov. Parnell is helping us kick off three days of workshops, presentations and sharing about what is working and what more can be done to prevent domestic violence, sexual assault and child sexual abuse across the state,” said Lauree Morton, Director of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. “This summit is an important part of the State’s efforts to support initiatives aimed at helping Alaskans end violence and learn what choosing respect can look like in individual lives and our communities.”

The summit is one of the cornerstones of the Council’s efforts to support the important work of violence prevention, Morton said.

“Local community prevention programs from Ketchikan to Bethel will be featured, along with key statewide and national initiatives that have been effective in preventing violence,” Morton said.

“We are especially pleased to have Dr. Dorothy Edwards of the Green Dot program discuss another of the Council’s key strategies, Green Dot in Alaska. We believe Green Dot in Alaska is a significant new approach to help harness the power of individual choices to mobilize our communities for safety because its focus ranges from teaching skills on how to safely intervene if someone sees violence occurring to helping communities become actively and visibly intolerant of violence.”

The Summit will also feature updates on ongoing statewide initiatives including: *Coaching Boys to Men*; *Girls on the Run*; the *Fourth R* - a school-based prevention program; and cultural-based initiatives to end racism and other root causes of violence.

“There is a lot of excitement about what is happening in Alaska to prevent violence,” said Susan Cushing, CDVSA Chair. “This summit is an important next step toward ending domestic and sexual violence in Alaska.”

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